

Thomas Clarke – Eastham Land Records 1650-1745

Thomas Clarke arrived in Plymouth in 1623. He was born about 1599 and he died in Plymouth in 1697. He lived mostly in Plymouth with occasional residence in Barnstable. He was a prosperous lawyer in Plymouth and he was involved in many land transactions in Plymouth and on Cape Cod. He is an example of a non-resident of Eastham who had early land dealings in Eastham.

1655

Thomas Clarke purchased from Experience Mitchell all his lands in Pamet and two acres of meadow at Namskaket for five shillings and a three year old heifer to be delivered later. PDF A215.

1661

This is another record of the 1655 land transaction and acknowledgement from Mitchell that he received the heifer from Clarke. PDF A215.

1666

Upland and meadow at Namskaket were granted in eleven parcels. The first parcel went to Thomas Clarke and Experience Mitchell. The fifth parcel went to Thomas Clarke and Experience Mitchell. The sixth parcel went to Thomas Clarke and William Bradford. It appears each parcel was about one acre. PDF A229, M43, M44.

Meadows of the Purchasers on the southerly side of Great Namskaket were granted in eleven parcels. The sixth grant of about two acres went to Thomas Clarke. It was next to land of John Howland. Bounds were indicated by marked trees and stakes in the ground. PDF A235.

1674

Thomas Clarke purchased from John Howland two parcels of upland near Sautucket Mill for five pounds. One parcel was five acres. The other parcel described as a half share probably was at least two acres. The parcels were near a little brook which came out of a pond and ran to the sea. PDF A232, A233, M42, M43.

1675

Thomas Clarke demanded at town meeting his rights to lands three miles east of Namskaket. PDF P2.

1677

The 1666 grant of two acres at Great Namskaket to Thomas Clarke was rerecorded. PDF A235, M281, S64.

Granted to Thomas Clarke one and one-half acres of broken marsh ground on the southerly side of Namskaket River. The lot was between lots of Edward Bangs and Joseph Rogers. PDF A237, A238, M208, S58.

1679

Thomas Clarke purchased from Robert Wixam twenty acres of upland on the eastern side of Pochet for fifteen pounds. The land was next to the beach and a little island. PDF A201, A202, M114, M115.

1680

This land record involving a grant to John Freeman makes reference to an earlier purchase at Satucket in the old Indian Field. The earlier transaction involved ten acres bought from the Indians by Thomas Clarke and Jonathan Bangs representing the purchasers of Plymouth. PDF A135, M190.

Thomas Clarke sold to Timothy Cole the land Clarke bought from Robert Wixam in 1679. No more details were given. PDF A202, M116.

Land previously bought by the purchasers from the Indians at Satucket and Namskaket was partially distributed in ten parcels. The land was north of a pond in an area called Sick Man's Field. The seventh parcel consisting of six acres was granted to Thomas Clarke and Experience Mitchell. PDF A227, M37, S104.

Granted to Thomas Clarke and Daniel Cole about two acres at Satucket in the old Indian Field. The land was next to the Satucket River. PDF A242, A243, M241, M261, S79.

Granted to Thomas Clarke about two acres at Satucket in the old Indian Field. The land was bordered by land of Mark Snow and Joseph Rogers. Bounds were indicated with stakes and stones. PDF A242, A243, M241, M261, S79.

1683

This was another record of Thomas Clarke's 1680 sale of land to Timothy Cole. PDF A202, M116.

Granted to Thomas Clarke about two acres on Tom's Island on the farther side of Patanumaquit. The lot was next to the beach and next to the lot of John Freeman. PDF A243.

The Eastham land owned by Thomas Clarke described in these records amounts to about forty-five acres. By 1745 there are no more records of Clarkes receiving Eastham land grants or purchasing Eastham land.